

PASSING EVENTS.

The rains have begun in Oregon, and much wheat has been ruined.

"Oister stoos" are becoming conspicuous signs again in some localities.

There were 1,090,000 cigars shipped to New York from Key West last week.

There are marketed in New York city during the season 250,000,000 clams.

The Georgia mosquito attacks canaries and mocking-birds, and even kills chickens.

Several hundred Chinamen have disembarked at Mazatlan, Mexico. More are coming.

The New York stock-exchange has twelve hundred members. They are never all present.

The Vera Cruz government has economized by suppressing the private secretaryship to the governor.

"Whalebone Jack," since the death of Rabbit Hole Smith, is the most prominent Stockton, Cal., citizen.

Having succeeded with Sunday concerts, New York is anxious for libraries to be opened on Sunday.

The work of alaying new cable across the straits from Port Townsend to Victoria, B. C., has been commenced.

Gov Crosby, of Montana, says the Piegans are now on half rations and are destitute of bedding and clothes.

The governor of Zacatecas, Mexico, has forbidden gambling in the state under pain of the severest penalties.

A negro confined in the Stockton, Cal., jail tried to escape by butting his way through the walls with his head.

The correct young man this winter, in place of the dude, will be stately, intellectual looking, and quietly dressed.

A new industry on the Mississippi coast which promises to succeed is the making of wine from dew and blackberries.

New York intelligence offices are overrun with well-dressed women who want to be governesses or ladies' companions.

A Georgia man shut a green snake up in a glass bottle thirteen weeks ago. The snake is still alive and "doing well."

The citizens of Guadalupe, Mexico, have united to alleviate the miseries of the prisoners in the public jail by sending them food.

Electricity instead of gas is beginning to be used for lightning in New York theaters, and generally satisfaction is expressed.

A Fort Keogh, Montana, dispatch says a horse tumbled fifteen hundred feet down the side of Sheep mountain, and walked off uninjured.

The young women, taking pattern after the masculine gender, have been writing to the superintendent of Castle Garden asking for husbands.

It is said that Nestor Mariscal, the famous bandit, was caught near Tecolotan, Mexico, and given rapid transit into the other world by the bullet route.

Lake Erie and the Niagara river furnish thirty-seven marketable varieties of fish. Bass are most numerous. Lake Erie pike have been known to attain the age of 100 years.

A Belva Lockwood campaign club has been formed at Rahway, N. J., by seventy-five young men, "whose uniform is a 'highly-colored Mother Hubbard dress and a poke bonnet.'"

One Chinaman in Stockton, Cal., stole a Chinawoman from another of his countrymen, and was arrested for grand larceny. The court ordered him to restore the live stock or pay for her \$450.

Nueces county, Texas, with a colored population of 1,000 and an efficient corps of county officers, has not for two years had a colored person confined in the county jail, or convicted of any offense during that time.

Cotburg, Canada, is excited over the purloining of one thousand names from the petition lying in the sheriff's office praying for the submission of the Scott act in the united counties of Northumberland and Durham.

A citizen of Troy, N. Y., is said to have recently papered the stalls in his stable with paper that cost him \$30,000. Part of the covering consisted of bonds of a defunct steam-heating com-

pany, and the rest was bonds of other "busted bubbles."

A Baptist minister preaching a laudatory sermon on the actor John McCullough, and saying "I would to God that the present animosity existing between the church and stage were wiped out," is one of the events which illustrates that the "world does move," at least in New York.

A physician of New London, Conn. has a patient who experiences blood sweating. The disease is not fatal nor serious. The patient sweats bright, healthy blood from the arm pits. The sweating is supposed to be caused by an enlargement of the pores of the skin. There are only ten similar cases on record.

The Hartford Times relates that Miss Jennie Blackman, of Mill Plain (Danbury), arose from her bed while asleep Monday night of last week and wandered some distance from the house to a brook, in which she was found asleep in two feet of water, with her head resting on the bank. She is 18 years of age, and has had fits of somnambulism before.

A young woman went to work in a New York shirt factory. She worked at the machine, that was run by steam, without taking her eyes off the muslin, till 12 o'clock. She had made twelve shirts, and found that there was due to her 20 cents, from which 5 cents was deducted for thread, leaving 15 cents as half a day's earnings. Is it any wonder she was discouraged?

The assessment roles of the state of Texas for 1884 show the number of cattle in the state to be about 7,000,000, an increase over 1883 of about 500,000. The valuation is placed at a little over \$84,000,000, an increase over 1883 of \$1,500,000. The cattle business was never more prosperous in Texas, despite the prediction of damage by the fence law, which Gov. Ireland is vigorously enforcing.

An American is said to have introduced into England a perforated linen suit made of coat, vest and trousers all of one piece, with a valve at the bottom of each trouser leg to close the perforations in case of wet weather. The whole structure weighs only two-pound, and is donned by means of a hinge-like arrangement at the waist. It is unfortunate that the present state of the weather does not favor such a suit.

An anonymous writer with a self-confessed "weakness for roasted chestnuts" has addressed a complaint to Dr. Cyrus Edson, of the New York board of health. He says that "it is the invariable custom with vendors to keep their chestnuts hot by covering them with the most filthy rags, and generally red flannel that has probably done service as underclothing is used. With the moisture from the chestnuts this covering becomes reeking with steam, and possibly they may be impregnated with disease. Aside from the filthiness, it would seem dangerous. Countless thousands will bless you if you will remedy this evil."

A Powder Man's Adventure.

Mr. Dupont, who was recently removed from the enjoyment of \$2,600,000 by an explosion, was probably the largest manufacturer of explosives in the world. One of the most daring achievements recorded in the history of the present century is one of which he is the central figure. During the Crimean war the Russian government ran short of powder, and the explosive was required to continue the defense of Sebastopol. A cargo was purchased from the Duponts in America, and was placed on a steamship lying off Baltimore. The British had frigates posted in waiting outside the Chesapeake. After several feints the watchers were eluded, and a chase began across the Atlantic, through Gibraltar and up the Mediterranean sea. With remarkable good fortune the vessel passed through the Bosphorus sea into the Black sea unchecked, but when nearing the place of contention the English warship hailed the stranger. Young Dupont was at the helm himself, and insisted that the vessel proceed, not heeding the signals from the warship. Two broadsides were fired into the vessel, but she was able to steam ahead and steer through the rocks, and was beached inside the Russian lines. This daring adventure saved the cargo, for which the Russian government paid the sum of \$3,000,000.—London Echo.

The Fate of Punched Silver.

"Yes, punched coins are a great nuisance, but they come to grief at last," said the rotund old messenger at the assay office in Wall street. "Why, we buy them here by the peck and melt them up into silver bars. What do we pay? Just what the silver comes to in coin, less 1 per cent. But we never buy less than \$100 worth of old silver. Many people come here and expect we are going to give them a new piece for some punched dime or quarter they have. I usually send them across the street to J. B. Colgate's bullion office. We get a queer assortment of old silver here—worn-out spoons, old family plate, watch-cases, medals, jewelry refuse from jewelers, shops, etc. You see there may be a good deal of sentiment clinging to a bar of silver when you think your grandmother's spoons or the pin you gave your girl may be melted up in it."

It happened that the reporter had a punched quarter with the hole neatly filled up with lead, which had been recently passed off on him, sandwiched between two other quarters in making change. Stepping over to Colgate's office he was told that the piece was worth 17 cents. "We take in such coins every day," said the clerk as he tossed the bad coin into a pile of others and handed out the 17 cents. I think a good many of them come from the West Indies. They do not mind punched money down there."

Another broker said: "This punched money is a vexation to the public. You have to scan every piece of money you receive to make sure you are not being swindled. Then nothing makes you so mad as to have some one shove a piece of money which you suppose is all right back at you and say 'punched,' and look at you as if you were a counterfeiter or a thief. It is ten times as easy to take such a piece as to get rid of it. You couldn't pass them on a blind man or an ignorant fruit-dealer, and about the only thing you can do is to put them in the contribution-box or give them to beggars, and then you feel like a mean fellow. I tell you punched money is a bigger nuisance than you think. This device of filling the holes with lead is a poor one. If the lead is scraped bright one might be deceived in the dark, but the fraud is easily found out if you look closely. Other ways of tampering with coin are to file it or bore into the edges or sweat it. This last is usually done to gold coin and is simply shaking it in a bag to get the gold dust that comes off. There ought to be severer penalties for tampering with coins. It is the meanest kind of robbery."—New York Tribune.

Right to the Point.

He was a tall, sad looking man; in fact, the boys said he looked just like a man who felt that the ordinary route to heaven was altogether too long for him. When he passed the time of day with the broker and stated that he lived in Indiana, he added:

"I am the guardian of an orphan who has \$80,000 left her."

"I see—all right—have a case like yours every day in the week. John, bring me an armful of those New York, St. Louis and Chicago certificates of stock. Sell 'em to you to-day at 6 per cent; \$20,000 worth will cost you \$1,200. You can chuck 'em in on the poor orphan at face value and clear \$19,200."

"I—ah—that is—"

"That's all right, sir—guardians doing the same thing all over the land—here they are sir—check, if you please—fine day—good-by."—Wall Street News.

A Methodist Centennial.

The Methodists in the Channel Islands have just celebrated their one hundredth anniversary. At the conference in 1784, Mr. Wesley appointed Robert Carr Brackenbury to labor in Jersey, and to him belongs the honor of introducing Methodism in these regions. The work soon spread to the whole archipelago. Mr. Brackenbury is succeeded by sixteen itinerants and about seventy local preachers. Jersey numbers 1,722 members, Guernsey 1,727, and Alderney 120—a total of 3,560. The islands have 54 Methodist chapels, valued at £30,000; 48 Sunday schools, over 5,000 scholars, upwards of 1,300 teachers, and two excellent days with 300 pupils.

ALASKA.

A Splendid Country for Hunting and Fishing.

And now a few words as to Alaska as a hunting and fishing ground. There is probably no part of the country where the huntsman can more thoroughly enjoy himself, provided he be strong in body and not averse to a good many rainy days. Deer are abundant, since venison is to the Alaskans what beef is to the easterner. The latter article is an unknown quantity here, as are all other kinds of fresh meat. Venison for breakfast, dinner, and supper, venison roast, boiled, stewed, *a la mode*, and cooked in every conceivable way, together with the everlasting salmon, form the Alaskan's bill of fare from one year's end to the other. But the deer are plenty, and the sportsman who goes out with the determination to find one will not return empty-handed. The Indian has two ways of deer-hunting, but the one which he prefers is to hunt with dogs, driving the animal down into a creek, where, with a club, short work is made of the deer. This method has its advantage in the fact that no noise is made, thereby scaring away any other game which may be near. At other times he takes his old flint-lock gun, the only arm he is allowed by the government to possess, and, finding a deer trail, he lies down in the bushes and waits, it may be one or twenty-four hours, until the animal comes along, when it is easily shot. To the white man, with his improved long-range rifle, deer-hunting does not necessitate so much patience, as the deer can often be sighted and shot at comparatively long distances. The best localities for a deer hunter are on the islands around Wrangle and Sitka, upon which the deer abound. The best time for deer-hunting, if sport is desired, is in the winter and spring; if the object is to kill them for food, the month of September will find the animal in the best condition. During the spring the bucks, whose horns are just growing and are very tender, stay on the mountain peaks, not caring to venture in the heavy timber which skirts the shores.

The Chilcat country, some two hundred miles to the northward of Sitka, is destitute of deer, owing to the fact that the bears are too numerous, and it may be well to mention that, if anyone is going to venture out into the woods, even near the towns, he had better carry a good rifle, for at any time and place he is liable to meet a bear, and unlucky is he if it happens to be a she bear with cubs accompanying. They are very tenacious of life, and from two to eight well-directed shots are usually required to kill them, although the Indian, when bear-hunting, puts six large bullets into his flint-lock and blazes away at short range, and, immediately upon firing, runs away at right angles to line of shot, knowing that the bear will rush for the smoke, thus giving him time to reload. At all events, the Alaska bear is not a pleasant party to meet single-handed, and it is best if you are alone, and suddenly run across one, to follow the advice of an old hunter: "If he don't see you clear out; if he does, climb a tree." In the Chilcat region are many mountain goats, which afford excellent sport. To the fisherman southeastern Alaska offers many inducements. To be sure, the salmon which abound in these waters do not bite at a hook, but in the rivers and creeks the salmon trout are very plentiful and may be caught by the hundred. Aside from the scenery, the hunting in this region will well repay a visit for one who is fond of sport.—Cor. Boston Herald.

Lumber in the South.

There is no finer poplar in the country than the yellow poplar lumber of Kentucky. It is straight and free from knots, and you get boards from two to four feet wide without a flaw. Great quantities of it are now being used for building and finishing lumber, and it is being shipped all over the north. The Georgian pine is another kind of lumber which has lately come into use, and this makes a rich and beautiful finish. There is a great amount of it in the south, and it brings good prices. It is hard as oak and takes a beautiful polish.—Cleveland Leader.